



**Preliminary  
Minutes  
St. Louis Board of Aldermen Meeting  
Friday, May 21, 2021  
10am  
Webinar Due to COVID 19**

**Minutes are preliminary and may change until finally approved by the Board**

**Call to Order**

President Reed called the meeting to order at 10:01am and directed the Assistant Clerk to call the roll.

**1. Roll Call**

The Assistant Clerk called the roll and the following members answered to their names: Middlebrook, Evans, Page, Ingrassia, Coatar, Guenther, Vollmer, Martin, Stephens, Schweitzer, Howard, Green, Oldenburg, Pihl, Todd, Davis, Spencer, Muhammad, J. Boyd, Vaccaro, Narayan, S. Hubbard, P. Boyd, S. Hubbard, Navarro and President Reed. **26 members were present. A quorum was established.**

*The following members entered the meeting while it was in progress making a total of 29 members present: Ms. Tyus, Mr. Bosley and Mr. Cohn.*

**2. Prayer**

President Reed recognized the Pastor John Watson of the Maple Avenue Temple to lead the members in the opening prayer.

Pastor Watkins led the members in prayer.

**3. Announcement of Any Special Order of the Day**

None

**4. Introduction of Honored Guests**

President Reed announced introduction of honored guests.

Mr. Vaccaro welcomed Greg Meyer as his honored guest for the day.

Mr. Vollmer stated that today Charles Lindbergh landed his plane in Paris as part of the first transatlantic air flight. He also mentioned that today is "National Support your Waitress and Waiter Day."

**5. Approval of Minutes**

President Reed recognized Mr. Vollmer on the motion to approve the minutes of the Friday, May 14, 2021 full Board of Aldermen meeting.

Mr. Vollmer moved to approve the minutes of the of the Friday, May 14, 2021 full Board of Aldermen meeting.

Seconded by Mr. J. Boyd.

President Reed called for the vote on the motion to adopt the minutes.

**The motion was carried unanimously by voice vote.**

**6. Report of City Officials**

a) **Report of the Clerk of the Board of Aldermen**  
None

b.) **Office of the Mayor**  
None

c.) **Office of the President**  
None

**7. Petitions and Communications**  
None

**8. Board Bills for Perfection, Informal Calendar**  
None

**9. Board Bills for Third Reading, Informal Calendar**

**Board Bill Number 175**

**Floor Substitute**

**Introduced by Alderwoman Christine Ingrassia**

An ordinance approving a blighting study and Redevelopment Plan for the 2741 Locust St. Redevelopment Area.

**Vetoed by the Mayor in a letter received May 10, 2021.**

**Board Bill Number 217**

**Introduced by Alderwoman Marlene Davis**

An ordinance approving a Redevelopment Plan dated January 26, 2021 for the 3601-3609 Lindell Blvd. Area.

**Vetoed by the Mayor in a letter received May 10, 2021.**

**President Reed asked if any member wanted to take a Board Bill off of the Third Reading, Informal Calendar.**

**There were no requests.**

**10. Resolutions, Informal Calendar**

None

**11. First Reading of Board Bills**

President Reed directed the Assistant Clerk to the First Reading of Board Bills.

The Assistant Clerk read the following into the record.

**Board Bill Number 31**

**Introduced by Alderwoman Annie Rice, Alderman Jesse Todd, Alderwoman Christine Ingrassia, Alderwoman Anne Schweitzer, Alderman Bret Narayan, Alderwoman Megan Green, Alderman Bill Stephens, Alderwoman Tina Pihl, Alderman Dan Guenther**

An ordinance setting forth regulations for the use of surveillance technology by the City of St. Louis; requiring surveillance technology usage and specific technologies be approved by the Board of Aldermen after required public hearing, before any such surveillance technology may be used and plans may be put into practice; and containing a severability clause and emergency clause.

**Board Bill Number 32**

**Introduced by Alderwoman Heather Navarro**

An ordinance recommended by the Board of Estimate and Apportionment authorizing the Director of the Department of Human Services, on behalf of the City of St. Louis, to accept a Grant Award from FORTH, an Oregon nonprofit corporation, in the amount of \$60,000.00, appropriating the Grant Award funds, authorizing DHS/SLAAA to enter into contracts and to expend those funds, to the extent received; and containing an emergency clause.

**Board Bill Number 33**

**Introduced by Alderman Thomas Oldenburg**

An ordinance establishing the "5700 Walsh Street Residential Parking District" and location and restrictions for curb parking within the 5700 Walsh Street Residential Parking District; and authorizing the placement of Permit Parking Only signs and prohibiting the parking of any vehicle which does not display the required permit; and providing a penalty for violations, and containing an emergency clause.

**Board Bill Number 34**

**Introduced by Alderman Thomas Oldenburg**

An ordinance submitting to the qualified voters of the City of St. Louis a proposed amendment to Section XVI of the Charter of the City of St. Louis requiring the Board of Estimate and Apportionment to meet and hear public comment on any matter before voting on it with the exception of matters relating to the rules of its own proceedings and providing that the Board may vote on a matter at the same meeting it hears public comment on the matter.

**Board Bill Number 35**

**Introduced by Alderwoman Shameem Clark-Hubbard**

An Ordinance establishing two, two-way stop sites at the intersection of Clarendon Avenue and Maple Avenue regulating all traffic traveling northbound and southbound on Clarendon Avenue; and containing an emergency clause.

**12. Reference to Committee of Board Bills**

President Reed directed the Assistant Clerk to read Reference to Committee.

The Assistant Clerk read the following Reference to Committee.

Convention and Tourism:  
None

Education and Youth Matters  
None

Engrossment, Rules and Resolutions:  
None

Health and Human Services:  
None

Housing, Urban Development and Zoning:  
None

Intergovernmental Affairs:  
None

Legislation:  
**Board Bill Number 34**

Neighborhood Development:  
None

Parks and Environmental Matters:  
**Board Bill Number 32**

Personnel and Administration:  
None

Public Employees:  
None

Public Safety:  
**Board Bill Number 31**

Public Utilities:  
None

Streets, Traffic and Refuse:  
**Board Bill Numbers 33 and 35**

Transportation and Commerce:  
None

Ways and Means:  
None

**13. Second Reading and Report of Standing Committees**

President Reed directed the Assistant Clerk to the Second Reading and Report of Standing Committees Calendar.

The Assistant Clerk read the following into the record.

**Mr. Vaccaro of the Public Safety Committee submitted the following report, which was read:**

**Board of Aldermen Committee Report May 21, 2021**

**To the President of the Board of Aldermen:**

The Public Safety Committee, to which the following Board Bills were referred, reports that it has considered the same and recommends adoption of Board Bill Numbers 3, 4, 12, 23 and 27.

**Board Bill Number 3**

**Introduced by Alderwoman Clark-Hubbard, Alderwoman Christine Ingrassia**

An ordinance authoring and directing the Circuit Attorney, on behalf of the City of St. Louis, to enter into a grant agreement with the United States Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance, Office of Justice Programs for funding to create The St. Louis Circuit Attorney Navigation, Diversion, and Opportunity Program 2019-AR-BX-K018 and authorizing the Circuit Attorney to expend related grant funds necessary to support this effort including hiring staff and program development resources; and containing an emergency clause.

**Board Bill Number 4**

**Introduced by Alderwoman Clark-Hubbard, Alderwoman Christine Ingrassia**

An ordinance authoring and directing the Circuit Attorney, on behalf of the City of St. Louis, to enter into a grant agreement with the United States Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance, Office of Justice Programs to fund Innovative Prosecution Solutions for Combating Violent Crime grant Program 2019-YX-BX-0021 and authorizing the Circuit Attorney to expend related grant funds necessary to support this effort containing an emergency clause.

**Board Bill Number 12**

**Introduced by Alderwoman Howard**

An ordinance prohibiting the issuance of any package liquor licenses for any currently non-licensed premises within the boundaries of the Fourteenth Ward Liquor Control District, as established herein, for a period of three years from the effective date hereof containing an emergency clause.

**Board Bill Number 23**

**Introduced by Alderman Joseph Vaccaro**

An Ordinance recommended by the Board of Estimate and Apportionment wherein the Board of Aldermen authorizes the receipt of and appropriates funds granted through the United States Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) for Emergency Medical Services; and containing an emergency clause.

**Board Bill Number 27**

**Introduced by Alderman Joseph Vaccaro**

An ordinance recommended by the Board of Estimate and Apportionment and authorizing the Police Commissioner, on behalf of the City of Saint Louis, to enter into and execute a Grant Agreement with the Missouri Office of Crime Victim Services to fund the Protection Program for Witnesses of Violence grant program, appropriating funds therefor, and authorizing the Police Commissioner, or his designees, to enter

into contracts and expend the funds, to the extent received; containing a severability clause and an emergency clause.

**14. Report of Special Committees**

None

**15. Perfection Consent Calendar**

President Reed directed the Assistant Clerk to the Perfection Consent Calendar.

The Assistant Clerk read the following into the record.

**Board Bill Number 13**

**Committee Substitute**

**Introduced by Alderwoman Ingrassia, Alderwoman Annie Rice, Alderwoman Megan Green, Alderman Dan Guenther, Alderman Jesse Todd, Alderwoman Pamela Boyd, Alderwoman Sarah Martin, Alderwoman Lisa Middlebrook, Alderwoman Anne Schweitzer**

An ordinance authorizing the City of St. Louis Department of Health (DOH) to accept a grant from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration known as the Law Enforcement and Behavioral Health Partnership: STL CARES project grant, authorizing the expenditure of grant funds by entering into contracts or otherwise for the grant purposes; and containing an emergency clause.

**Board Bill Number 14**

**Committee Substitute**

**Introduced by Alderwoman Ingrassia**

An Ordinance authorizing the Department of Health to accept COVID-19 response grant assistance, upon approval by the Board of Estimate and Apportionment, through the Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity CARES award of up to \$71,150.00 from the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services and to fulfill the obligations of said grants; and containing an emergency clause.

President Reed recognized Mr. Vollmer on the motion to approve the Perfection Consent Calendar.

Mr. Vollmer moved for the adoption of the Perfection Consent Calendar.

Seconded by Ms. Howard.

President Reed called for the vote to adopt the Perfection Consent calendar.

**The motion was carried unanimously by voice vote.**

**16. Board Bills for Perfection**

None

**17. Third Reading Consent Calendar**

None

**18. Third Reading / Report of Engrossment and Final Passage**

None

**19. Report of Enrollment Committee**

None

**20. Courtesy Resolutions Consent Calendar**

President Reed directed the Assistant Clerk to the Courtesy Resolutions Calendar.

The Assistant Clerk read the following:

**RESOLUTION NUMBER 23  
HONORING SHELIA JONES**

**WHEREAS**, it has come to the attention of this Honorable Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis of the retirement of Ms. Shelia Jones; and

**WHEREAS**, Shelia Jones served as Ameren Missouri's Business and Community Affairs Coordinator from 2007-2014; and

**WHEREAS**, in this post she was the primary point of contact for 45 municipalities, including the City of St. Louis; and

**WHEREAS**, Shelia maintained active involvement with the City of St. Louis that included attending Board of Aldermen meetings on Fridays, which she thoroughly enjoyed as a City resident, and acting as an information liaison conveying information between the City and Ameren; and

**WHEREAS**, in her role with Ameren she assisted Aldermen with power outages, street lighting issues, and coordinating the execution of the Streetlight Agreement; and

**WHEREAS**, in addition to all her other work, Shelia assisted with an Economic Development project in the 22<sup>nd</sup> Ward coordinating the new Geraldine Works Headquarters; and

**WHEREAS**, now, after 43 years of employment with Ameren UE and servicing her community, Shelia is finally retiring.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis that we pause in our deliberations to recognize Ms. Shelia Jones for her years of service to our community and by adoption of this Resolution we wish her well on her retirement. We further direct the Clerk of this Board to spread a copy of this Resolution across the minutes of these proceedings and to prepare a commemorative copy to the end that it may be presented at a time and place and to those deemed appropriate by the Sponsor.

**Introduced on the 21st day of May, 2021, by:  
The Honorable Marlene Davis, Alderwoman 19<sup>th</sup> Ward**

**RESOLUTION NUMBER 25  
HONORING REVEREND DR. NICHOLAS L. GRICE, SR.**

**WHEREAS**, we are delighted to pause in our deliberations to honor and recognize Reverend Nicholas Lamonte Grice, on the occasion of his 20th year of Preaching Ministry Anniversary; and

**WHEREAS**, Reverend Grice has been serving in Music Ministry for 8 years old and preaching the gospel for 20 years and in May of 2003 he was called to Pastor the 56-year-old Mount Hebron Missionary Baptist Church; and

**WHEREAS**, that Reverend Grice was invested as one of the St. Louis Regions youngest Senior Pastors ever; under his leadership change began in the church family and membership grew from 10 members to well over 150 active members and moved to a new location in the heart of Baden; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Grice, a Gifted Preacher with a Heart of Gold has an egalitarian spirit evidenced through his ordination and inclusion of female clergy and has served Many St. Louis Funeral Homes including his start at the Eddie Randle and Sons Funeral home where he became the Resident Chaplain at age 22; and

**WHEREAS**, Reverend N.L. Grice serves now faithfully at the Greater Rising Star Missionary Baptist Church as Assistant Pastor and worked alongside his Senior Pastor, Dr. Nathaniel Griffin, Sr. and has sphere headed renovations and established new ministries in serving God by helping humanity, engaging in discipleship to help build a sense of community, and taking care of the day to day operations of Greater Rising Star Missionary Baptist Church; Reverend Grice also actively serves as Minister of Music at the Greater Rising Star Missionary Baptist Church as well as Jesus is the Way Missionary Baptist Church; and

**WHEREAS**, Reverend Dr. N.L. Grice continues to serve the St. Louis Community in ministry through mediums of Wedding officiant, Funeral Services Representative, Professional Musician, Teacher, and Evangelist; and

**WHEREAS**, he loves to preach; in 2001 he was licensed to preach the gospel at the Mount Hebron Missionary Baptist Church. In 2002 he was ordained with Rev. Dr. E. G. Shields, Sr. Serving as catachizer. Rev. Grice has attended numerous conventions and Bible colleges with his most recent degree being the honorary doctorate of divinity from Midwest University; and

**WHEREAS**, Reverend N.L. Grice is regarded by the members of his congregation as a Man of God and a dedicated preacher who has earned their love and respect as a man who loves and adores his children Nariyah L. Grice, Niche' L. Grice, Natalie L. Grice, and Nicholas L. Grice, Jr.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOVED**, by the Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis that being informed of the upcoming anniversary we wish to we pause in our deliberations to express our sincere congratulations and thanks to Rev. Grice and his wonderful family. We wish him and his family many more years of continued success. We further direct the Clerk of this Board to spread a copy of this Resolution across the minutes of these proceedings and to prepare a commemorative copy to the end that it may be presented to our honoree at a time and place deemed appropriate by the Sponsor.

**Introduced this 21<sup>st</sup> day of May, 2021 by:**

**The Honorable Lisa Middlebrook, Alderwoman 2<sup>nd</sup> Ward**

**The Honorable Lewis E. Reed, President St. Louis City Board of Aldermen**

**The Honorable Marlene Davis, Alderwoman 19<sup>th</sup> Ward**

## **RESOLUTION NUMBER 26 HONORING VARONDA LANDRY**

**WHEREAS**, we are delighted to pause in our deliberations to honor and recognize Varonda Landry on the occasion of her retirement; and

**WHEREAS**, she started her career in 1979 and attained SIUE - Edwardsville where she received her degree; and



**WHEREAS**, she worked at nine different schools throughout the st. Louis Public School District including elementary, middle, and high school; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuing an opportunity to teach in California, the experience was short lived. She was requested to return by her former principal and completed the last 18 years here at Nance starting her tenure in 2003; and

**WHEREAS**, recognized as “Teacher of the Year” for the entire district in 1993. This was the first year all African American women were recognized. She was also recognized as “Teacher of the Year” at Nance School in 2009; and

**WHEREAS**, prior to her oldest sister (Mary) departing 5 years ago, Ms. Landry enjoyed taking sole care of her; and

**WHEREAS**, cooking together with her sister and going out shopping was their “jam.” In her spare time, she enjoys visiting her sister in Illinois where they spend majority of their time shopping at different high-end stores, and talking with her two nephews; and

**WHEREAS**, upon retiring she plans to join her other retired friends and partake in a lot of traveling and trying new restaurants.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOVED**, by the Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis that we pause in our deliberations to express our congratulations to Ms. Varonda Landry and wish her the best in her retirement. We further direct the Clerk of this Board to spread a copy of this Resolution across the minutes of these proceedings and to prepare a commemorative copy to the end that it may be presented to our honoree at a time and place deemed appropriate by the Sponsor.

**Introduced this 21<sup>st</sup> day of May, 2021 by:**

**The Honorable Lisa Middlebrook, Alderwoman 2<sup>nd</sup> Ward**

President Reed recognized Ms. Davis on the motion to adopt the Courtesy Resolutions Calendar.

Ms. Davis moved to adopt the Courtesy Resolutions Calendar.

Seconded by Ms. Howard.

President Reed called for the vote to adopt the Courtesy Resolutions Calendar.

**The motion was carried unanimously by voice vote.**

**21. First Reading of Resolutions**

President Reed directed the Assistant Clerk to the Courtesy Resolutions Calendar.

The Assistant Clerk read the following:

**RESOLUTION NUMBER 24**  
**CONDEMNING RECENT HATE CRIMES COMMITTED AGAINST ASIAN AMERICAN AND**  
**PACIFIC ISLANDERS**

**WHEREAS**, following the spread of COVID-19 in 2020, there has been a dramatic increase in hate crimes and violence against Asian American and Pacific Islanders; and

**WHEREAS**, between March 19, 2020 and February 28, 2021 there have been 3,795 firsthand accounts of anti-Asian and Pacific Islander hate incidents and crimes reported from 50 States and the District of Columbia; and

**WHEREAS**, during this timeframe, race has been cited as the primary reason for discrimination, making up over 90 percent of incidents; and

**WHEREAS**, roughly 36 percent of these incidents took place at a business and more than 2,000,000 Asian American and Pacific Islander businesses have contributed to the diverse fabric of American life; and

**WHEREAS**, during this time, Asian American and Pacific Islander youth under 20 years old make up roughly 13 percent of victims; and

**WHEREAS**, during this time, Asian American and Pacific Islander elderly over 60 years old make up around 7 percent of victims; and

**WHEREAS**, during this time, Asian American and Pacific Islander women make up a majority of victims; and

**WHEREAS**, Asian American and Pacific Islanders have made significant contributions to American culture.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis:

- 1.) Affirms that the City of St. Louis stands united in condemning and denouncing any and all anti-Asian and Pacific Islander sentiment in any form;
- 2.) Condemns all manifestations or expressive of racism, and anti-Asian and Pacific Islander or ethnic intolerance; and
- 3.) Calls on local, state, and Federal law enforcement officials and local, state, and Federal officials —

A. To expeditiously and vigorously investigate all reports of Asian and Pacific Islander hate crimes in the United States; and

B. To hold the perpetrators of those crimes accountable and bring the perpetrators to justice.

**Introduced on the 21st day of May, 2021, by:**

**The Honorable Bret Narayan, Alderman 24<sup>th</sup> Ward**

**The Honorable Lewis Reed, President Board of Alderman**

**The Honorable Annie Rice, Alderwoman 8<sup>th</sup> Ward**

**The Honorable Megan Green, Alderwoman 15<sup>th</sup> Ward**

**The Honorable Christine Ingrassia, Alderwoman 6<sup>th</sup> Ward**

**The Honorable Dan Guenther, Alderman 9<sup>th</sup> Ward**

**The Honorable Shane Cohn, Alderman 25<sup>th</sup> Ward**  
**The Honorable Carol Howard, Alderwoman 14<sup>th</sup> Ward**  
**The Honorable Heather Navarro, Alderwoman 28<sup>th</sup> Ward**  
**The Honorable John Coatar, Alderman 7<sup>th</sup> Ward**  
**The Honorable Jeffrey Boyd, Alderman 22<sup>nd</sup> Ward**  
**The Honorable Anne Schweitzer, Alderwoman 13<sup>th</sup> Ward**

President Reed recognized Mr. Narayan on the motion for Resolution Number 24.

Mr. Narayan stated the following requested to be added as co-sponsors: Ms. Clark-Hubbard, Mr. Stephens, Mr. Oldenburg, Mr. Vaccaro, Ms. Spencer, Mr. Cohn, Mr. Page, Ms. Middlebrook, Ms. Boyd, Mr. Boyd, Ms. Tyus, Ms. Pihl, Mr. Todd, and Mr. Bosley.

Mr. Vaccaro moved to place Resolution Number 24 En Banc.

Seconded by Mr. Stephens.

President Reed called for the vote to place Resolution Number 24 En Banc.

**The motion was carried unanimously by voice vote.**

Mr. Narayan moved to send Resolution Number 24 to the Public Safety Committee.

Seconded by Ms. Tyus.

President Reed called for the vote to send Resolution Number 24 to the Public Safety Committee.

**The motion was carried unanimously by voice vote.**

**RESOLUTON NUMBER 27**  
**RECOGNIZING ADDICTION IS A PUBLIC HEALTH ISSUE**  
**NOT A CRIMINAL JUSTICE ISSUE**

**WHEREAS**, addiction to illegal and prescription drugs is a public health issue not a criminal justice issue; and

**WHEREAS**, there are nearly 1.3 million people incarcerated in the United States, and nearly 20% are incarcerated for drug related crimes and for many it is an addiction to illegal or prescription drugs that led them there; and

**WHEREAS**, addiction must be addressed as a physical and mental health issue in order to reduce crime; and

**WHEREAS**, the United States remains one of the few developed nations that does not adequately fund addiction treatment programs; and

**WHEREAS**, despite clear evidence that addiction treatment can reduce crime and incarceration numbers and improve community health the City of St. Louis has done little to improve access to addiction treatment and prevention programs for its citizens; and

**WHEREAS**, any plans the City may have for reducing crime should include support for addiction treatment and prevention programs.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis that we recognize that addiction to illegal and prescription drugs is a public health issue, and that the City's efforts to reduce crime should include funding addiction treatment and prevention programs. We further direct the Clerk of this Board to prepare a copy of this Resolution to be presented at a time and place and to those deemed appropriate by the Sponsor.

**Introduced this 21<sup>st</sup> day of May, 2021 by:**  
**The Honorable Jesse Todd, Alderman 18<sup>th</sup> Ward**

President Reed recognized Mr. Todd on the motion for Resolution Number 27.

Mr. Todd asked for Unanimous Consent.

President Reed asked if there was any objection to Unanimous Consent. There was none.

Mr. Todd moved to adopt Resolution Number 27.

Seconded by Ms. Davis.

Mr. Todd discussed Resolution Number 27. Other members discussing Resolution Number 27 included the following: Ms. Spencer, Mr. Narayan, Ms. Green, Mr. Guenther and Ms. Davis.

Mr. Vaccaro moved to place Resolution Number 27 En Banc.

Seconded by Mr. J. Boyd.

President Reed called for the vote to place Resolution Number 27 En Banc.

**The motion was carried unanimously by voice vote.**

President Reed called for the vote to adopt Resolution Number 27.

**The motion was carried unanimously by voice vote.**

## **RESOLUTION NUMBER 28**

### **SUPERVISED RECREATION PROGRAMS**

**WHEREAS**, supervised recreation programs provide a safe place for children and young people to go when school is not in session; and

**WHEREAS**, any engaging in physical and mental games and activities critical to the development and maintenance of good physical and mental health in children and young people, and engaging in such activities even for a small period each day can significantly improve mental and physical health, and

**WHEREAS**, participating in supervised recreation programs allows children to explore new areas of interest and develop their talent, and has the added impact of improving learning outcomes; and

**WHEREAS**, providing more supervised recreation programs for the children and young people of the City would also benefit working parents by providing child-care services while they are working and to allow them time to relax; and

**WHEREAS**, the need for more supervised recreation programs in the City is evident, as is the benefits that such programs provide children and young people, parents, and the greater community.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis that we recognize that engaging in physical and mental games and activities is critical to the health of our young people and the greater community, and as such the City of St. Louis should make a greater investment in creating supervised recreation programs in our parks. We further direct the Clerk of this Board to prepare a copy of this Resolution to be presented at a time and place and to those deemed appropriate by the Sponsor.

**Introduced this 21<sup>st</sup> day of May, 2021 by:**  
**The Honorable Jesse Todd, Alderman 18<sup>th</sup> Ward**

President Reed recognized Mr. Todd on the motion for Resolution Number 28.

Mr. Todd asked for Unanimous Consent.

President Reed asked if there was any objection to Unanimous Consent. There was none.

Mr. Todd moved to adopt Resolution Number 28.

Seconded by Ms. Evans.

Mr. Todd discussed Resolution Number 28. Other members discussing Resolution Number 28 included the following: Ms. Rice, Mr. Stephens, Mr. Narayan, Mr. Cohn, Ms. Davis and Ms. Clark-Hubbard.

Ms. Evans moved to place Resolution Number 28 En Banc.

Seconded by Ms. Davis.

President Reed called for the vote to place Resolution Number 28 En Banc.

**The motion was carried unanimously by voice vote.**

President Reed called for the vote to adopt Resolution Number 28.

**The motion was carried unanimously by voice vote.**

## **RESOLUTION NUMBER 29**

### **VACANT LOTS AND HEALTH**

**WHEREAS**, The Journal of American Medicine recently reported on a Philadelphia study showing that the “greening” of vacant and neglected urban land can improve mental health; and

**WHEREAS**, the Philadelphia study showed that greening urban land significantly reduced the participants’ occasions of feeling depressed, and particularly those participants in resource limited areas; and

**WHEREAS**, it is noteworthy that the greening efforts undertaken on the lands in the Philadelphia study consisted of such simple acts as removing trash, grading land, planting new grass and a small number of trees, and regular monthly maintenance; and

**WHEREAS**, another study testing the impact of restoring vacant urban lands has on violence, crime, and fear in communities reported in Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States found participants in the control groups viewed vacant and neglected spaces in their communities as a principal threat to their health and safety, while participants living in areas where greening occurred reported feeling an enhanced sense of security, and

**WHEREAS**, during the study period in the areas where greening took place there was a notable decrease in overall crime numbers, and the number of assaults involving firearms and burglaries in particular; and

**WHEREAS**, the greening efforts undertaken in this study also consisted of the simple acts of removing trash, grading land, planting new grass, and regular maintenance; and

**WHEREAS**, there are other studies that show similar greening efforts affect economic outcomes in neighborhoods; and

**WHEREAS**, decreasing the vast number of vacant and neglected lots in the City and the associated problems, including crime, cannot be done by relying on economic development alone; and

**WHEREAS**, focusing on economic development as the solution to these problems comes at a cost to City residents, and often only benefits certain groups of residents; and

**WHEREAS**, inexpensive, neighborhood focused efforts to restore and green vacant and neglected lots in the City as was done in these studies would have significant and varied benefits for communities across the City; and

**WHEREAS**, the greening efforts done in the studies should not be considered special as they should be a part of the regular services provided by city governments; and

**WHEREAS**, the City owes a duty to its residents to ensure that the vacant and neglected are cared for, and to undertake efforts to green those vacant lots that it owns.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis that we recognize that the number of vacant and neglected lots in the City negatively impact the health and wellbeing of residents, and that the vast majority of are owned by the City, and be it further resolved that we recognize that the City owes a duty to its residents and taxpayers to regularly remove trash and debris from these lots, and to mow and otherwise maintain them as a part of its services to residents. We further direct the Clerk of this Board to prepare a copy of this Resolution to be presented at a time and place and to those deemed appropriate by the Sponsor.

**Introduced this 21<sup>st</sup> day of May, 2021 by:**  
**The Honorable Jesse Todd, Alderman 18<sup>th</sup> Ward**

President Reed recognized Mr. Todd on the motion for Resolution Number 29.

Mr. Todd asked for Unanimous Consent.

President Reed asked if there was any objection to Unanimous Consent. There was none.

Mr. Todd moved to adopt Resolution Number 29.

Seconded by Ms. Evans.

Mr. Todd discussed Resolution Number 29.

President Reed called for the vote to adopt Resolution Number 29.

**The motion was carried unanimously by voice vote.**

**22. Second Reading of Resolutions, Committee Reports and Adoptions**  
None

**23. Miscellaneous and Unfinished Business**  
None

**24. Announcements**  
President Reed directed the Assistant Clerk to Announcements.

The Assistant Clerk read the following:

***MONDAY, MAY 24, 2021***  
***NONE***

***TUESDAY, MAY 25, 2021***  
***TRANSPORTATION AND COMMERCE - 9:00 A.M. -WEBINAR***  
***PUBLIC SAFETY -11 A.M. -WEBINAR***

***WEDNESDAY, MAY 19, 2021***  
***WAYS & MEANS – 9:00 A.M. – WEBINAR***

***THURSDAY, MAY 20, 2021***  
***FULL BOARD MEETING – 10:00 A.M. WEBINAR***

**25. Excused Aldermen**  
President Reed recognized Mr. Vollmer on the excused Aldermen motion.

**Mr. Vollmer stated that all members were present.**

**26. Adjournment**  
President Reed recognized Mr. Vollmer for the adjournment motion.

Mr. Vollmer moved to adjourn, under the rules, until Thursday, May 27, 2021 at 10am.

Seconded by Mr. Cohn.

**The motion was carried unanimously by voice vote.**

**The meeting was adjourned at 11:04am.**